

**COMBINATION THERAPY USING AN IL-1 INHIBITOR FOR
TREATING IL-1 MEDIATED DISEASES**

ABSTRACT

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The invention relates to methods for treating or preventing arthritis. The method comprises administering to patients in need thereof therapeutically effective amounts of an IL-1 inhibitor and methotrexate. In a preferred embodiment, the IL-1 inhibitor is human recombinant IL-1ra and the methotrexate is N-[4-[(2,4-diamino-6-pteridiny]methylamino]benzoyl]-L-glutamic acid. The invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions containing an IL-1 inhibitor and methotrexate useful in such methods.

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